

Foster Parent Spotlight



Peggy and Bruce Hibbard, and their family

Bruce and Peggy Hibbard became Foster Parents over 5 years ago. Aside from becoming foster parents they have 5 children of their own which age from 14-19. Both Bruce and Peggy work full-time and are very involved with their children. They first started doing respite care and when the children later needed full time care they decided to do Foster Parenting full-time. Bruce and Peggy decided to become Foster Parents because they wanted to make a difference in the life of a child. They stated, "Children deserve to have people take

care of them." Since becoming Foster Parents they have had 3 placements and are currently in the process of adopting one of the children. Words of Wisdom Bruce and Peggy have to offer to new Foster Parents are " Ask questions, remember that they are frightened and confused just as much as you are. Listening to them is so important because a lot of the time nobody does."

When asked if PACE training was helpful they stated, "PACE training is the best! We did not want to take the

class so we put it off and put it off and finally could not anymore. We were so excited when we attended the training, it is great and it bonds you with the other foster parents in the class."

Both Bruce and Peggy work full-time and are very involved with their children. They enjoy watching movies together and shopping. They believe in family dinner together because it is their way of keeping in touch since life with teenagers is very busy.

Waukesha County  
Health & Human Services

April 2006

# Foster Care Forum

## SUMMER CAMPS IDEAS FOR KIDS

City of Waukesha residents only- pool use: A waiver form for is available at the Recreation Department 201 Delafield St., Waukesha, #524-3737  
"If an individual is in the Crisis Respite Program or in the W-2 program, the department can fund state approved/ licensed Camps ~ Contact: your social worker.  
"Brochures, applications & requirements for camping are available in the Shared Services Hallway  
\*\*\*Medical exams for nominal fee given at St. Joe's Medical Clinic, Oconomowoc Free Clinic, Menomonee Falls  
\*\*\*\*\* Indicates 2006 information not yet available

Resident/Overnight	Sex / Age	Sessions	Procedures
PHANTOM LAKE 262-363-4386 boating, swimming, archery, etc Mukwonago	Boys 7-17 Girls 7-17 Co-ed / Teen	June 18-24 through Aug 20-26	\$50 reg. fee necessary to obtain campership application. On first come basis.
GATEWAY TO ADVENTURE 544-4881 Boy Scouts Long Lake for at risk boys 1-14 ratio, Swimming, camping, crafts, etc pac@scouts.com	Boys 10 ½ - 12 ½ [size appropriate]a t risk	July 30 – August 5 August 6-12	Free of charge, 1X referral form, parents need to attend 1 meeting & med forms *** Deadline April 27
WISCONSIN LIONS CAMP 715 677-4969 mild / borderline cognitively disabled youth & Adult, visually impaired & deaf programs lion-camp@wi-net.com www.wisconsinlionscamp.com*****	Boys & girls 9-17	3 Cognitively disabled sessions June 19-24, July 10-15, Aug 14-18	No cost to those who meet eligibility requirements 3-28 application deadline; thereafter first come basis
CAMP POW-WOW ARCh respite & recreation Horseback, soccer, swimming, medical attention 262- 675-9622*	Boys & Girls 7-21 Adult	Various programs June 26 - August 11, June 12 - July 21	COP, CIP, Family support Must be a current member of ARCh
CAMP HELEN BRACHMAN Boating, fishing, swimming &cook- outs #414 263-8383 *****	Boys & Girls 8-15		\$50- \$600 based on income – scholarships available for all families
WHITCOMB/MASON 262-538-1190 Boys & Girl's Club Lake Keesus, swimming, sports whitcomb@boysirlsclubs.org	Boys & Girls 7-17	Various programs thru July 17-21 July 24-28	Camperships forms available first come basis \$5.00 member
CAMP MINIKANI 262 251-9080-CAMPERSHIPS hiking, swimming, crafts, environmental 3 day & 7day camps www.minikani.org	Boys & Girls 4 –7 7- 14	June 20- Aug 13 2 day camps day/resident camps	Scholarship based on family size & income, camperships available
WISCONSIN BADGER CAMP 608 348-9689 Swimming, hiking, fishing, campfire	Young Adults 14-25 Co-ed 3-13	Courses start June 12 – 18 Last course August 14 - 19	Application –request campership on form & call#
Camp Wawbeek /Easter Seals stumace@wi-easterseals.org WI DELLS 1-800-422-2324 Respite and residential – physical & cognitive disabilities	All Ages	Various programs June 11 through July 28	\$100.00 registration fee – COP, CIP, Family support. Applications due 2 wks prior to camp
ADVENTURES FOR L.I.F.E. 414 937-2098 canoeing, tubing, fishing, Kayaking for DD people*****	Boys & Girls 16 + DD	July 11-15, 18-22 August 15-19, 29- Sept 2	Registration fee \$50.00
HARANDCAMP of Theatre Arts 847-864-1500Carthage College acting, singing, dancing, sports	Boys & Girls 8-18	June 25 - July 16 July 17 - August 6 June 25 – August 6	Full camperships available – ASAP registration to Colleen, diversity embraced
CAMP MATAWA YMCA climbing wall, horseback riding, swimming archery campfires canoeing, *****	Boys & Girls 8-17 DD, hearing, visual, LD, mobility Limitations, diabetes	July 10-August 19	Camperships, sliding scale, additional child discount

Contact Numbers:

Waukesha H & HS  
262-548-7212

Eve Altizer Children's Mental Health Outreach  
262-548-7310

Crisis Mentoring Pager  
414-848-6711

Medical Emergency: 911  
Family Emergency: 211

Judy David  
Support Group President  
414-671-3747  
(home) 414-462-8446

Lisa Alden, Supervisor  
262-548-7271

Shari Rather,  
Foster Care Coordinator  
262-548-7267

Amber Sparks  
Visitation Coordinator  
262-896-6849

Feb. '06 Placements

Regular Foster Care:  
63 Children  
0 Admitted  
1 Discharged

Treatment Foster Care:  
32 Children  
2Admitted  
0 Discharged

Group Homes:  
5 Children  
0 Admitted  
0 Discharged

Residential Care Facilities:  
12 Children  
2Admitted  
0 Discharged

Relative Placements:  
47 Children  
1 Admitted  
1 Discharged

Social Workers:

Bob Alioto  
262-548-7262

Peggy Beisser  
262-548-7261

Kathe Blum  
262-548-7275

Barb Hufschmidt  
262-548-7270

Margaret Johnson  
262-548-7265

Suzanne Koberstein  
262-548-7348

Elizabeth Russo  
262-548-7349

Kim Sampson  
262-548-7273

Linda Senger  
262-548-7698

Marilyn Videgar  
262-548-7363

Ted Wuerslin  
262-548-7269

Jennifer Wygle  
262-548-7260

We Need You!

For more information about becoming a foster parent in Waukesha County, please contact Shari Rather at:

srather@waukeshacounty.gov  
262-548-7267

or visit our website at  
[www.waukeshacounty.gov](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov)  
and follow the links to foster care.

### Foster Care Forum

Waukesha Health & Human Services  
500 Riverview Ave. Waukesha 53188  
262-548-7212

What's Inside:  
April 2006...

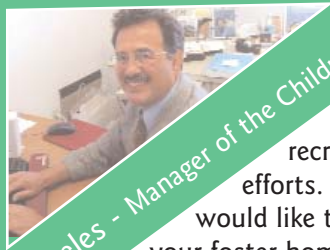
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# Jesse's Corner



Jesus Mireles - Manager of the Children and Family Division

Last month I wrote about the "good news" and "bad news" of our recruitment and licensing efforts. As I mentioned, I would like to find ways of utilizing your foster home for needed services! Well, I'd like to share information about one of our multi-county initiatives contracted with Lutheran Social Services, called Family Partnerships Initiative (FPI). Renee Soroko, MS, Program Supervisor provided the following information about the FPI program. She stated it's an intensive strength-based program that works with severely emotionally disturbed and behaviorally challenging youth and their families in an effort to keep families together (or return the child to a less restrictive environment if they have already been placed outside of their natural home.) The program is designed to address the needs of children and families. Together, as a team, they create a proactive approach for maintaining, reuniting, and keeping the child in the community.

The team will work together to identify and individualize the family's plan of care. We will focus on the family's strengths and willingness to reunite or maintain in the home and community.

Our goal as a team is to help the child live successfully in the least restrictive environment possible, while providing for the safety of the child, family, and community. Often times, for various reasons, children are unable to return to their natural home and can reside successfully in foster care with additional supports from us. We bring in services specific to each child to provide them with treatment and structure but yet enable the child to connect with a family rather than rotating staff or a "facility." We have been able to maintain troubled youth in their homes, or in foster homes, with additional services and can offer the same assistance to foster parents who are considering youth that have treatment needs.

In the near future, we would like to schedule a meeting with foster parents who are interested in finding out more about FPI program and fostering these children. If we receive enough interest we will schedule a meeting, if not, we will meet with each of you individually!

For more information, please contact Don Daniels at (262) 548-7704 or ask your social worker for more information.

## Social Worker Spotlight



Hello. I am Elizabeth Russo and am a Social Worker in the Permanency Services Unit.

I began my social work career at Wisconsin Correctional Service working with delinquent teens. Then I came to the County in 1994. I have been working at the Department for 11 years. When I was first hired, I worked in the Alternate Care Unit and worked with kids in foster care, relative placements, and at-risk in-home. I worked in the Alternate Care Unit for 9 years. In 2004 I came to the Permanency Services Unit and have now worked with children in foster care and the birth families for approximately 2 years.

I grew up in the Waukesha Area and graduated from UW-Milwaukee. I knew back in about first grade that what I wanted to be when I "grew up" was someone that helped people. Of course the title of what I wanted to be changed throughout the years, but by the time I entered college, I knew I wanted to work in the field of mental health, counseling, and children's welfare.

My biggest joy in my job is seeing families, caregivers, and other service providers all working well together. In the end, it is all about the child and when things run smoothly, the child benefits. It is wonderful to see a child have a permanent, safe, forever home; whether it be through a return home, an adoption, or a guardianship.

I live in Wauwatosa and bought my house there in 1998. I am twice a godmother; to 13 year old Lucas and 6 year old Thomas. I have two cats that are brother and sister. They are named Lyric and Lourdes and are very hairy!! I enjoy music and watching local bands, am semi-addicted to reality television, am completely addicted to shoe shopping, and like to travel to our family home in Florida often. I also like independent films and am always dragging friends to karaoke !!

Keep up all the good work you do with our kids, and always try to remember that YOU MATTER IN THEIR LIVES.....now and forever!!!!

Thanks, Elizabeth

## Family Resource Center Events for April, 2006

All Events are at the Adoption Resource Center of Wisconsin Suite 310 located in Milwaukee (West Allis) unless otherwise stated. You must call the register of all events 414-475-1246

### April 22, 2006 Great Families Support Group

10 until noon, the event is free. A support group for parents of special needs children. For more info call Paula @ 414-475-1246.

### April 25, 2006 African American Hair Care

6:30 to 8:00 pm  
\$5.00 per person or \$8.00 per couple  
Learn how to properly care for the hair of your adopted or foster child.  
Call 414-475-1246 to register.

April 26, 2006  
**FACE TO FACE**  
5-7 pm. This is a free event Adoption Resources' social work staff will be available for personal, private, one on one meeting with families wanting to learn more about foster care and/or adoption Call 414-475-1246 to make an appointment.



## Shared Parenting Training

*Waukesha County will also be providing a free training event for our Foster Parents on April 29 and May 6 on Shared Parenting. This training is strongly encourage for all foster parents to attend. We feel it to be so important that we are providing child care. Please return the enclosed form to me and I will forward it to the Southern Partnership also please indicate if child care in needed.*

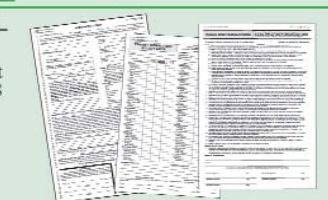
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